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GENERAL

1. French and Dutch views on importance of MAP--US Ambassador Bruce in Paris, in expressing his concurrence with the view of other US diplomatic representatives that prompt passage of the Military Aid Program is essential, declares that the average Frenchman regards MAP as the "indispensable armature" for the Atlantic Pact. Bruce believes that without MAP, Frenchmen will be more susceptible to Communist propaganda that the Atlantic Pact is "a dangerous piece of paper" which provokes the USSR without supplying the means to resist a reaction to the provocation. US Ambassador Baruch at The Hague considers that failure to receive early assurances of military aid will support those Dutch groups who want the Netherlands to adopt a minimum defense program on the ground that the country cannot possibly secure an adequate means of defense.

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Exclusion of Germany from current MAP planning urged--
US Embassy London recommends that the US refrain at present from suggesting the eventual participation of western Germany in MAP. The Embassy believes that such a suggestion would arouse doubts and fears among Western European countries, particularly France, regarding US policy toward Germany.

2. Possible danger in raising Palestine arms embargo--The US delegation at the UN reports from New York that the Security Council will probably end the Middle East arms embargo by adopting some resolution based on Mediator Bunche's proposals for terminating existing truce arrangements. The delegation considers that it would be most unwise to lift the embargo suddenly and completely. The US representatives fear that unless prior agreement is reached among potential arms suppliers for limiting arms traffic, the removal of controls by the Security Council will set off a dangerous armaments race in the troubled Middle East area.

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